

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, NEUCHATEL - QUARTERLY REPORT

DIVISION : PROCESS DEVELOPMENT  
SUBJECT TITLE : RODEO  
PERIOD COVERED : OCTOBER - DECEMBER 1988  
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KEYWORDS : rodeo, total, blend, expansion, tobacco, fc,  
gb, ftr, et

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**OBJECTIVE**  
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Produce a cigarette for the UK market using the total blend expansion technology.

**STATUS**  
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In the context of this project, a total blend expansion run was carried out in November 1988 in the FTR ETNA installation in Onnens. The tobacco for this trial, consisting of 1'000 kg of Virginia, was processed (conditioned, cased and cut) on November 29 in the FTR Primary and expanded the next day in Onnens.

Based on our experience of earlier total blend expansion trials (projects NILE, EUPHRATE), the process gas temperature was kept constant at 220°C during the whole trial period. No special problems were encountered during the running of the trial.

For the first time, all the expanded tobacco by-passed the reordering cylinder, following a new route from exit tower to a provisionally installed manually operated filling station, thus resulting in less degradation of the expanded tobacco.

A trial report was issued jointly by the ET Process Engineer and the undersigned (1).

The necessary follow-up with the expanded tobacco will be carried out by the Product Development group.

**REFERENCE**  
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- (1) Dufour-P., Lüthi-N. Report to Babey-J., "Essai d'expansion, RODEO", December 19, 1988

NIL/cav/January 5, 1988  
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